

July 7, 2003

TO:

Each Supervisor

FROM:

Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: COLLABORATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE TO EDUCATE PHYSICIANS ABOUT THE IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

(IHSS) PROGRAM

This is to inform you that my department has entered into an agreement with the University of California, Irvine Program in Geriatric Medicine for a program permitting physicians to accompany In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Social Workers on home visits. The purpose of the program is to educate medical residents regarding issues related to the aging population by permitting them to observe aged individuals in their home environment. The medical residents learn about the living environments and needs of older patients and learn to make appropriate referrals. The program will be year round and is slated to begin in August, 2003.

The program initially began in Orange County and its success there fueled UCI's desire to replicate the program in Los Angeles County. The medical residents who will participate will be based at the Veterans' Administration Medical Center in Long Beach, IHSS staff serving the Long Beach area will coordinate the home calls. All home calls are dependent upon the clients' permission.

The workload impact will be minimal with two medical residents each month accompanying Social Workers on one home call each. The medical residents will be covered by liability insurance provided by UCI and will have read and signed an agency confidentiality form developed by my staff and County Counsel.

BY:gw

c: Chief Administrative Officer **County Counsel Executive Officer**